(a) whether Government propose to amend the laws governing foreign investment in power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the American Power Companies have refused to invest in India unless the tax-free status is provided to the power sector;

(d) whether a number of foreign firms have also demanded the same; and

(e) whether Government have taken a final decision in this regard, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

THREATS OF TERRORIST OUTFITS AGAINST THE EXCUTION OF DULHASTI PROJECT

2661. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 580 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 1993 and state :

(a) what was the original cost of Dulhasti Project;

(b) whether the terrorist outfits have issued threats against the execution of this project; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of the present status of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The Dulhasti Hydro-electric Project was sanctioned in July 1989 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1262.97 crore (including interest during construction) for execution through a French Consortium.

(b) In July 1993, the French Consortium received a warning through the press from terrorists of severe punishment in case the work at the Project was not stopped.

(c) Work at the project site had been suspended by the French Consortium in August 1992 on grounds of security. Till then most of the infrastructural work and about 27 per cent of the major civil works had been completed. About 75 per cent of the work relating to engineering and design and preparation of detailed construction drawings has also been completed. The Consortium have supplied about 28 per cent of the electro-mechanical equipment and another 50 per cent of the equipment is ready for shipment.

संसद सदस्यों द्वारा मंत्रालय को भेजे गए पत्र

2662. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ भीम अफजल** : क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) संसद सदस्यों द्वारा मंत्रालय को 1-4-90 से 31-3-93 की अवधि के दौरान लिखे गए पत्रों का वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इन पत्रों में से कितने पत्रों की पावती भेजी गई,

(ग) कितने पत्रों के अंतिम उत्तर भेजे गए, और

(घ) मंत्रालय द्वारा भेजे गए इन अंतिम उत्तरों में से कितने पत्रों के उत्तर सकारात्मक थे और कितने नकारात्मक ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. वी. रंगैया नायडु) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान